

EXPLOSION

Five of Fifteen

Virginia-Pilot.)
A special to
Ind., says:
A flash of fire
and high and
country for miles,
Ohio
Company's Im-
mense south of
a few seconds
was in flames
until the building
compressed the
lines to a number
and a number of
cities, as well as
a number of
equipped with
engines
one of the
kind in existence.
The station was
of natural gas,
and the loss of
the burning of
caused great in-
suffering along the

BASE BALL MATTERS

Eight Club Scheme is a Reality.

If the Courts Out Von der Ahe Louisville Will Not Be One of the League—Big Offers for Players this Season.

(By Telegraph to Virginian-Pilot.)
Louisville, Ky., Dec. 31.—Contrary to the announcement made to-day in these dispatches, that the directors of the Louisville Baseball Club would hold an important meeting to-night, at which deals of general public interest would be settled, no such meeting was held. However, the baseball news brought here from the East by Director Barney Dreyfus was made known by that gentleman to-night, and it throws much additional light on the eight club league scheme recently hinted at in New York at the meeting of the baseball magnates.

Mr. Dreyfus says several offers have been made for the star players of the Louisville Club. The consideration of the deals and their settlement will be made at the annual meeting of the stockholders next week.

EIGHT CLUBS A REALITY.

More important than this, however, is the statement unequivocally made for the first time, that the eight club league scheme is a reality, and that its consummation hangs on the decision of the St. Louis courts, which will be made this week, in the case of Muckenfuss vs. Von der Ahe. If the court decides in favor of Muckenfuss and thereby nullifies the decision of the St. Louis courts, which will be made this week, in the case of Muckenfuss vs. Von der Ahe, there will be but eight clubs in the league, and Louisville will not be one of them.

The league has already made an offer for the Colonels with certain provisions, and the local magnates have practically agreed to the terms. If the courts of St. Louis decide in favor of Muckenfuss, the Cleveland team will play at the Mound City; Louisville and Washington will be bought out and abolished, and the Baltimore team will play in Brooklyn, thereby reducing the league to eight clubs. If Von der Ahe wins his suit, the league is kept in power by the St. Louis courts, and the reduction will be blocked and the Louisville club will probably dispose of some of its star players. It can be said, however, that the magnates expect the courts to decide in favor of Muckenfuss, and they have already made arrangements for a meeting of the heads of the eight clubs interested.

BIG OFFERS FOR PLAYERS.

While Mr. Dreyfus would not go into details regarding the offers from the Eastern clubs, he admitted that the New York and Philadelphia clubs were the ones that seek the Colonels' best players. He also admitted that one of the offers was \$16,000 for Outfielders Fred Clarke and Charles Dexter. Mr. Dreyfus also made an offer of \$1,000 for Pitcher Cunningham. Philadelphia has also made offers for Clarke, Dexter and Kittredge. Magee and Klingham are also sought by the Eastern magnates. It is stated that the local owners can dispose of four or five of the best players to the New York and Philadelphia clubs for at least \$25,000. Whether the Louisville stockholders will decide to dispose of these players is a question which will not be answered until the annual meeting next week.

WORDS OF PRaise

bestowed upon Hood's Sarsaparilla by those who have taken it indicate that it is restoring health to thousands of people and that it will help you also.

HOOD'S PILLS are easy to take, easy to operate, cure biliousness, indigestion, etc.

A PARABLE.

(Boston Evening Transcript.)
A Malay and a Hottentot were fighting on the plains. In most unruly fashion and with the very doubtful gains. When there came a Christian gentleman toward them, through the rains.

The Malay and the Hottentot were very, very bare. For dampness and malaria they plainly didn't care. But the well-dressed Christian gentleman began to shake and swear.

"I wish you wouldn't fight," said he; "It's shocking and it's rude. But since you will, I've brought to you a basketful of food."

I think the Malay needs it most; I've brought it for his good."

No thanks the Christian gentleman from either party drew. They fought with angry vehemence. And quite obscured his view. Said he, at last, "Such wickedness will never, never do!"

He loaded his revolver. This good and kindly man, And shot as straight and fired as fast As many Christians can; And then he truly felt himself A good Samaritan.

"I've killed 'em both!" said he, with pride. "Their pain is hard to see. But all must suffer when it comes To such a point with me. What I have done is all because Of my humanity."

The dying Hottentot looked up, The dying Malay, too. The Christian gentleman was just Departing from their view. He held what they were fighting for, And held it tightly too.

"Oh shameful sight!" they cried aloud. "What could I do?" he said; "Some one must take this property. For soon you will be dead. I didn't wish to fight," said he; "You'd needs be on your head."

"This is a noble war!" he cried. "I come to save the weak. The oppressed are dear my brethren. The Malay tried to speak. I wish," he said, with emphasis, "I wish I had your cheek!"

JAMES FENIMORE COOPER

He Was First Historian of the Navy.

How Cooper Was Trained for His Work—How He Studied the Lakes and the Ocean—What He Really Did for Us.

David Ringwalt writes in the Philadelphia Ledger:

King Solomon's remark about books in general might be applied to the literature of the American navy. We owe to our naval service countless magazine articles, pamphlets and bound volumes, which suggest the comparisons found in school grammar, "good, better, best," or "bad, worse, worst." Unless one has looked over some of the alleged naval biographies of the past he cannot understand what wretched productions they were. On the other hand the navy has inspired Brownell's verses, Bret Hart's "Out of Scarborough," the amusing life of Commodore Barney, Commodore Morris' reminiscences, Porter's journal, the scholarly writing of Prof. Soley, Rear Admiral Franklin's breezy volume, the histories of Farragut and Porter, the histories of Roosevelt and Meade, and the noble, lasting work of Captain Mahan. These productions, alike patriotic and tasteful, solid and readable, are well known. As for the bygone trash a little of it is preserved in some of the notes to Roosevelt's delightful book on the war of 1812.

JAMES FENIMORE COOPER.

To Cooper, the novelist, the patriot and the litigator, the generous, the eccentric, and the pugnacious, we are indebted for a large share of all that is best in our naval literature. Like one of his own pioneers, he blazed the way. No man of his time could have prepared so masterly a book as Mahan's "Influences of Sea Power Upon History," but Cooper elevated national thought here and won the respect of intelligent Englishmen. His prejudices against steam and ironclads, if not sustained by the facts, were prejudices of many of his ablest contemporaries. What he did for us was to show that fireworks are not to be compared with the spread-eagles of his time burst forth in essays of a school boy nature. Cooper wrote as a man. If our naval policy seemed to him weak, if our public opinion was incorrect, if the enemy deserved more credit than we were disposed to give him, Cooper wrote with mature dignity. So far from Cooper's popular approval, Cooper seemed to relish being in the minority. Unlike Clay, he would have enjoyed being right all the more if it kept him from being President. There were people who liked to believe that L'Insurgente was superior to the Constellation, the Guerriere a fair match for the Chesapeake, and Barclay's force stronger than the rest of the world's fleet. On such matters Cooper's frank statement of the truth gave offense. He believed in our navy so thoroughly that he was willing to tell the facts and discard the fictions.

COOPER'S EARLY TRAINING.

Born in Burlington, N. J., Cooper was removed in infancy to the shores of the beautiful Ontario lake. He lived in an atmosphere calculated to broaden the mind. Traditions of Indian warfare taught the child to admire the bravery of his countrymen while neighbors from all parts of Europe saved him from that contempt of foreigners so common in babyhood, and which babyhood never quite outgrows. The storms of the French Revolution sent refugees from a dozen lands into interior New York. Talleyrand, in the days of his exile, visited Cooper's father. Of the earliest storekeepers at Cooperstown one had been a captain in the British army, and another had been Governor of Martinique. The lesson that bright minds and brave hearts may be driven into the forest by political changes or military disaster was taught by a host of examples, and young Cooper, long before he started out to write history, knew men who had helped to make it and had been unmade in consequence.

After some time in a village school, Cooper was sent to Albany, and became the pupil of an English clergyman, whose morals did not suggest Goldsmith's good parson, but who had been well trained and could teach what he knew. Cooper learned to look at both sides of the Revolutionary struggle, and to understand the dominant British view of law and government of Crown and colony. No teacher could have destroyed Cooper's patriotism, and an English schoolmaster may have saved him from becoming a Jingo. The death of the pedagogue was followed by Cooper's admission to Yale College. He studied the scenery around New Haven, neglected his books, got into boyish scrapes, and was finally expelled. His father argued that the college authorities were unjust. Throughout life Cooper retained pleasant memories of several of the Yale staff, and with Professor Shuman he maintained a correspondence. It is not likely that Cooper's misdeeds were of a serious character, but Yale may have done wisely in expelling a youth who refused to learn what the saw fit to teach. Professor Lounsbury, in his charming life of Cooper, says that experience in a class room teaches one

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Is Dr. Humphreys' Specific for Coughs, Colds, Influenza and

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Advantages of using "Sevens-Seven"

The early use of "77" prevents the Grip. If you have the Grip and take "77" you won't have Pneumonia. You won't have to stay in bed. You won't have to stay indoors.

If you take "77" and exercise properly, keep your feet dry, don't stand in the street, keep moving, wear warm clothing and don't get over-tired, you will be able to attend to your duties, keep about your business and not have to lay up.

Always keep a bottle of "77" in your pocket and take frequently. At drugists or sent prepaid, 25c., 50c., and \$1.00. Humphreys' Med. Co., corner William and John streets, New York. Be sure to get

HUMPHREYS'

SOWING THE WIND.

Improper Treatment of Catarrh or Neglect of It Invites Trouble.

MR. J. W. ORPE'S EXPERIENCE.



CATARRH

is an enemy always in our midst. It waylays our footsteps. It nags us; it irritates us; then it changes its name and kills us. Four-fifths of our people have catarrh. Some have it mildly, some severely. Many struggle against it; others neglect it, but ignoring catarrh or treating it improperly is piling up trouble.

Per-na-na attacks catarrh in its stronghold—the mucous membranes—and literally drives it out. Dr. Hartman, the originator of Per-na-na, has been curing catarrh for many years, and he does it with Per-na-na.

The universal experience with the use of Per-na-na is that expelling the catarrh builds up the system and benefits the general health.

Mr. J. W. Orpe, Quannah, Texas, had chronic catarrh of twenty years' standing. Per-na-na cured him completely. Here is his letter:

Dr. S. B. Hartman, Columbus, O.
DEAR SIR:—I was afflicted with a case of chronic catarrh of twenty years' standing. I had been partially deaf on the left side for twelve years. Six months ago I had to be propped up in bed at night and lie on my side for fear of choking. I did not think I could be cured. I began taking Per-na-na, however, and now believe myself to be thoroughly cured. My breathing is perfectly free and easy, and I cannot too highly recommend your remedies, Per-na-na and Man-a-lin. The catarrh does not, in the slightest degree, seem to affect me now.

Catarrh must be attacked vigorously and intelligently or it can never be cured. To treat catarrh properly it must be understood.

Dr. Hartman's books on catarrhal diseases are mailed free on application to the Per-na-na Medicine Co., Columbus, O. They remove the mystery that surrounds the subject of catarrh, and are written in a common-sense vein that all may understand. Special book for women, called "Health and Beauty," mailed to women only. All druggists sell Per-na-na.

"To view with profound respect the infinite capability of the human mind to resist the introduction of knowledge."

A LIFE ON THE OCEAN WAVE.

In those days, a generation before the founding of the Annapolis Academy, young men who wished to become naval officers were often sent to cruise in the merchant service before they applied for uniforms. Cooper, in 1806, shipped before the mast on a vessel bound for Europe. He visited England, saw Gibraltar, and passed through two heavy gales. In 1808, he was a midshipman on board the Vesuvius, and thence proceeded to Lake Ontario to aid in building the brig Onondaga. He was fortunate in his commander, Volsey, whose life he afterwards sketched for a magazine, and he gave to his profession the close attention he had refused to pay to the classics. After some gunboat service on Lake Champlain, he was ordered to the Wasp, then under Lawrence, a native of Cooper's birthplace, Burlington. It is doubtful if the naval authorities of the world can furnish a man who excelled Lawrence in winning the hearts of those under his command. Though a typical sea-dog, with scarcely a holiday in all his service, Lawrence had a gentleness and courtesy painfully rare on the old time quarter deck. It is pleasant to think of Cooper hearing from the lips of Lawrence the story of that glorious night when Decatur ran into Tripoli harbor, and when the angry Bashaw saw the Philadelphia burn before his eyes. No one heard with more pride than Cooper the news of the brilliant afternoon when Lawrence sent the Peacock to her watery grave, and no one gave a widow more regretted Lawrence's defeat and death than the subordinate of former days. An early marriage was soon followed by retirement from the navy, but Cooper had learned a great deal from the ocean and the lakes, the fore-castle and the quarter-deck. He had formed acquaintances among naval officers, and his likings were as strong as his prejudices. Thirty-seven years after his first cruise, he showed his loyal friendship for an old shipmate. Cooper was a tireless worker, who relished long journeys for data, and swallowed tables of figures. With industry he joined the art that makes the dry bones live, and the backbone that insists on doing justice to an enemy.

THE CHANGING VIEW.

For some years before the War of 1812, it was generally believed that a British man-of-war could not be beaten. The triumphs of our seamen brought about a change of sentiment, and foolish writers launched into absurdities. As a rule, our ships were heavier in battery and carried stronger crews than their opponents. English critics had declared that a frigate could not carry heavier long guns than 18-pounders without injury. We proved that 24-pounders were terribly effective. American gunnery was far more accurate than that of our enemies. Instead of giving the facts, the spread eagles screamed the wildest nonsense about our victories over great odds, when the odds were really on our side. British scribblers wrote as wildly and falsely, exaggerating the force of American ships, and claiming that all our best sailors were English renegades. James, the British naval historian of the War of 1812, was a man of decided ability, and gives much valuable information, but his hatred of America leads him to scribble what no sane man can believe. For instance, he wishes to prove that the Hornet's small list of wounded is false, and asserts that several wounded men were thrown overboard by Captain Biddle's orders. He also tells a legend of a British frigate, which declined to chase an American ship of greater force. This may have been, but James adds that the British tars were so keenly disappointed at missing a fight that they refused their grog. Believe this he who can. When a man of such genuine candor as William James could write in this vein, what could be expected from the lowest type of British pamphleteer or American editor?

COOPER AND FAIR PLAY.
Cooper had married into a Tory family and his Revolutionary patriotism was unmixt with hatred for the honest supporters of the Crown. Full of naval traditions, he could not look on a brave enemy as a being with horns, hoofs and a tail. His love of fair play shows, to quote one of a hundred instances, in what he says of the fight between the Wasp and the Reindeer: "It is difficult to say which vessel behaved the best in this short but gallant combat." The fragmentary records of the Revolutionary navy gain a new charm as handled by one who had listened to Dale, as he talked of Paul Jones. With the zeal of the student, Cooper blends the warm interest that

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New Year's Greeting

We beg to return our thanks to the public for the liberal patronage bestowed upon us during the past year, and trust by strict attention to your wants, with lowest prices and prompt attention, to merit a continuance of the same. We have many Holiday Novelties left over, which we are offering at greatly reduced prices; also lots of odds and ends of Hardware and Household Goods, which we wish to close out before stock taking. Come early for genuine bargains.

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TUESDAY, JANUARY 3d, 1899, *

The most genuine values ever offered the trade in this city, consisting of

250 DOZEN HATS

Every one fresh and this season's shapes. Each Hat perfect, as follows:

75 dozen Untrimmed Wool Felts, all colors	15c.	75 dozen Untrimmed French Felts, all colors	25c.
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Former price 75c.

Former price \$1.25.

25 dozen Untrimmed Wool Felts, Good Blacks	19c.	100 dozen Ready Trimmed Hats, Sailors, Yachts and Walking Hats, all colors, 12 styles . .	25c.
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Former price 98c.

Former price \$1.00.

These goods are so cheap it will pay you to buy them for future use even if you do not need them for now.

Don't fail to visit our store this week.

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Next to Academy of Music. ***

THE LOWENBERG SPECIALTY STORE.

SPECIAL JACKET SALE.

All Jackets up to and including \$7.50 to go at \$5.00

All Jackets up to and including \$15.00 to go at 10.00

All Jackets up to and including \$22.50 to go at 15.00

FOR MONDAY ONLY.

SPECIAL SALE OF WRAPPERS.

Wrappers at 75c. Cut from 89c. and back.	Of figured material, trimmed in braid and with ruffles on shoulders, yoke front	Wrappers at 89c. Cut from \$1.00. Six handsome styles at this price with choosing from about 18 patterns as regards colorings—all of good warm Flannellette. This line includes blue and red Polka Dots of large, medium and small sizes with double ruffles on shoulders and braid trimmed.
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